Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-08 /088 W -------044566 030626Z /15

R 021045Z AUG 78 FM AMEMBASSY BAMAKO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0238 INFO AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT AMEMBASSY RABAT AMEMBASSY ALGIERS AMEMBASSY DAKAR

CONFIDENTIAL BAMAKO 3693

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: OVIP

SUBJECT: MAURITANIAN MINISTER RURAL DEVELOPMENT ON GIRM ATTITUDES

TOWARD SAHARA WAR

1. AT DINNER JULY 31 FOR MISS LILLIAN IN BAMAKO, NEW GIRM MINISTER FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (BA) TOLD AF/W DIRECTOR THAT MAURITANIAN NEW GOVERNMENT WANTED PEACE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IN WESTERN SAHARA, BUT RECOGNIZED THAT IT COULD NOT MAKE PEACE UNILATERALLY AND WOULD HAVE TO SEEK A SOLUTION THAT WAS ACCEPTABLE TO ALL PARTICIPANTS. BA SAID THE WAR HAD DESTROYED THE MAURITANIAN ECONOMY, AND THAT MAURITANIA COULD NOT CONTINUE TO FIGHT. HE THOUGHT THAT IN THE FIRST INSTANCE, MAURITANIA SHOULD SEEK TO USE THE GOOD OFFICES OF THE OAU. HE STRONGLY SUPPORTED THE APPOINTMENT OF THE GROUP OF "WISEMEN" AND THOUGHT THIS MIGHT BE A CONSTRUCTIVE BEGINNING.

2. BA WASUNTIL RECENTLY THE DIRECTOR OF THE SAHEL INSTITUTE IN BAMAKO. HE IS WELL KNOWN TO EMBASSY CONFIDENTIAL

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BAMAKO AND AID/SFWA. BYRNE

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Subject: MAURITANIAN MINISTER RURAL DEVELOPMENT ON GIRM ATTITUDES TOWARD SAHARA WAR

TAGS: OVIP, (CARTER, LILLIAN)

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